

R. A. HIGGINS, Editor.

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All communications should be addressed to the Editor.

Perryburg, Thursday, June 4, 1857.

The Presbyterian General Assembly.

The Presbyterian General Assembly commenced its sixty-third annual session in Cleveland, on the 21st ult. It is an annual organization, and it was generally understood that the subject of slavery would be the exciting theme of discussion. The attendance was large, and on the 5th day, Dr. Ross, of Tennessee, the champion of the pro-slavery wing of the church, opened the discussion in a labored argument to prove that the Bible sanctions slavery, and consequently, that the American Declaration of Independence is an "infidel" document, that it is a "self-evident lie." Upon this point he quoted from his celebrated text to Dr. Barnes. It is proper to state that the Cleveland Plain Dealer publishes the speech of Dr. Ross, with every token of approval. We give the following specimen to show the general bearing of his speech, and trust our democratic friends will not all give it the hearty approval which greets it in the columns of the Cleveland Post-Master's paper:

"The time has come when civil liberty, as revealed in the Bible and in Providence, must be re-examined, understood and defended against the infidel theories of human rights. The slavery question has brought on this conflict, and, strange as it may seem, the South, the land of the slave, is summoned by God to defend the liberty he gives; while the North, the clime of the free, misrepresents and changes the truth of God into a lie—claiming a liberty he does not give. Wherefore is this? I reply—

God, when he ordained government over men, gave to the individual man powers, only as he is under government. He first established the family; hence all other rights are in the family expanded. The good of the family limited the rights of every member. God required the family, and then the state, so to rule as to give to every member the good which is his, in harmony with the welfare of the whole; and commanded the individual to seek that good and no more.

"That 'Declaration' affirmed not only the liberty sanctioned of the Bible, but also the liberty constituting infidelity. Its first paragraph, to the word 'separation,' is a noble introduction. Omit that, what follows, to the sentence beginning 'Providence will dictate,' and the paper, thus expurgated, is complete, and is then simply the 'Declaration of the colonies or less. And we solemnly enjoin all our faithful brethren who have hitherto desecrated the sacred soil by appeals for the liberation and elevation of the Blacks, that they desist from further insane efforts to educate, to emancipate, to colonize, or to evangelize them.

Resolved, That our mission as ministers and elders of the Church of Christ is a mission to men and not to cities, whether brutes or humans, and hence it becomes a disavowal of sacred rights to administer to more than a single rights upon humanity.

Resolved, That we glory in the spirit of that chivalric Presbytery which throws down the gauntlet, assumes the position and responsibility of the dead, assails its complicity with chattel slavery and defies the General Assembly to proceed to discipline them; or in other words, come into court, boldly confess their criminality, and beg leave to be hanged without the benefit of clergy.

Resolved, That we hail with gratitude the rising star of Empire in Utah, and rejoice in the re-establishment of a patriarchal institution kindred to that which is secured by the blessing pronounced upon Ham, and defied upon precisely the same principles.

Exciting Scene.

Some days since, it was ascertained that a fugitive slave had taken refuge in the house of a citizen of Mechanicsburg, in Champaign county, and the Marshal who was in pursuit, proceeded to the place of his concealment to arrest him. He was in an upper room, and the Marshal sought to reach him, by means of a ladder, from the outside. As he was ascending, the negro fired upon him, the ball hitting the rifle which the Marshal carried in his hand. This was more than the officer could stand, and he thereupon retreated. On Tuesday of last week, therefore, the Marshal collected a posse and again visited Mechanicsburg; this time for the purpose of arresting the man who harbored the fugitive slave upon his premises. This officer, says the Toledo Blade according to the Fugitive Slave law, is punishable by a fine of \$1,000 and imprisonment. On Wednesday he succeeded in making the arrests, and the most intense excitement, which was heightened by the rumor that the prisoners were to be carried into Kewasky, where a mob was ready to lynch them.

A writ of habeas corpus was procured from a Judge in Champaign county, and the Sheriff attempted to serve it; but before he could do so, the officers had conducted prisoners beyond the bounds of the county. A second warrant was then procured in Clarke county, and the Sheriff in this instance refused to obey the writ. The Sheriff not having force to compel obedience, they proceeded on their journey. A third writ was, however, obtained in Greene county, and the Sheriff, with his posse, arrived at upon the U. S. officers at six o'clock on Thursday morning in Jamestown. The U. S. officers resented the act of the county officers in seizing their horses' reins, and a war of words ensued. The Sheriff and his men were assisted by an excited mob of two or three hundred persons, and several shots were fired. Mr. Churchill, the Marshal, discharged his revolver at the crowd, but no one was injured. The conflict was sharp and stubborn, but superior numbers prevailed, and the Deputy Marshal, with all his posse, were made prisoners.

A dispatch afterward announced that the whole party of United States officers, who were thus engaged in hunting slaves on free soil had been taken to Springfield, where they would be held for trial under the laws of Ohio. At one o'clock on Thursday, another Deputy Marshal (Kieffer) arrested Isaac Scargow at Springfield; he having also been charged with harboring the same escaped individual, and he was held to bail in the sum of \$10,000. The following telegraphic dispatch will indicate the direction of the events which followed:

Springfield, May 31.

The Deputy Marshal's Assistant were brought before Justice Gristen in this city this morning. Churchill and Elliott were arraigned on two charges—one for assaulting Deputy Marshal Compton, the other for assaulting Sheriff Lyon with intent to murder.

Churchill and Elliott, through their counsel, asked that the amount of bail be fixed for their appearance at the next term of the Court of Common Pleas. Bail was fixed at \$2,500 each, on both charges. The balance of the party, eight in number, were required to give bail in \$10,000, as a self-denial, the whole party were committed to jail.

P. S.—The U. S. officers confined in the Springfield jail, have been taken to Cincinnati on a writ of habeas corpus issued by Judge Leavitt. Gov. Chase has engaged competent counsel to attend to the interests of the State.

We regret that our limited space will not permit more liberal extracts from the remarks of the different disputants. The one is an unvarnished representation of southern views upon slavery, and exhibits the willingness with which our most sacred and long-revered principles are trampled under foot to gratify the slave power; while the other breathes these pure principles of Christianity which harm no man, and represent a devotion to the God given principle of human liberty, as set forth in the Declaration of American Independence, in union with the feelings which prompted the framers of that instrument and its defenders. We must close by giving a series of resolutions offered by Mr. Corwin, of California, which were read but not presented to be voted upon. They are such resolutions as Southern Christians are supposed to relish, and their severe irony must have touched even the feelings of Dr. Ross. They are supposed to emanate from a Southern Assembly:

Resolved, That this Assembly express its devout thankfulness in view of the fact that the vexed question of slavery has at length been settled to the satisfaction of all good men; justifying the entire action upon the southernist Biblical interpretation by the highest judicial tribunals and by the voice of the people which is the voice of God.

Resolved, That we deprecate the wide spread Atheism prevailing in many of the Churches of the North, where, according to common talk, church members are still fellowshiped and held to be in good and regular standing, who are ignorant or so perverse as to avow their belief in the "glittering generalities" and "statutes in abstractions" of that infamous document known as the Declaration of American Independence.

Resolved, That with solemn independence we face the confessions of the wickedness of the Union School up to the present time, and you will have the Board over \$10,000 in debt. There would be a lie worth telling—a man's nest with an egg in it. Mr. "Tax Payer" "Tax Payer" cannot see that a large part of the expenditure of each year has gone to pay up all the outstanding indebtedness of the previous year. That in the computation of the Board the deficit of each year was added into and made a part of the expenses of the succeeding year—Thus in our computation the deficit of 1853-4 was stated at \$695,75, this was added into the expenses of the next year, and the receipt of that year taken from the current expenses and former deficit, left a deficit for 1854-5 of over \$700. That debt was then added into the expenses of the next year, and the total deficit disclosed by the receipts of that year left a deficit for 1855-6 of \$831.20. That debt was again added into and made a part of the expenses of the present year. Diminish this amount by taking from it the total receipt for this year and you have a deficit left of \$697.48, as the absolute sum total of indebtedness against the Board, including all former deficits up to August 1, 1857. Blockheads and fools very forwardly volunteer advice. We have a case before us; Tax Payer, existing in his arithmetic, advises us to attend a "Woman's School." We don't know but we shall. We are not of that number who believe that even a man cannot at some time learn something worth knowing in a "Woman's School."

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Many passages of Scripture which are little less than promises to those readers who are unacquainted with the localities of the Bible country and the manners and customs of its inhabitants, are the most beautiful and powerful evidences of its wisdom and simplicity when seen through the light thrown upon them by this work.

It teaches this lesson also; that Christ and his Apostles did not use meaningless expressions to convey their ideas; neither did they resort to figures of speech which were not familiar to their hearers. On the contrary, they talked upon familiar subjects, used every-day illustrations, and related sin without fear or trembling. We have few such apostles now-a-days. Original sin, total depravity, the election of some to life everlasting and others to eternal damnation, forms of worship, baptism, and all other things that do not amount to a pennyweight when thrown into the scale of genuine piety, constitute the burden of their discourses, and the necessary consequence is that churches are poorly attended and ministers are poorly paid. This may be thought plain language, but is it not too true? Do church members not stand over their ministers with threatening clubs, promising summary vengeance if they presume to declare the whole truth? If a minister rebukes a state or national sin, is he not denounced as a "political preacher," "bawling politician," or "palpit political haranguer"? And if he denounces intemperance, gambling, swearing, cheating, lying, stealing, slandering, and the innumerable vices which prevail in every community, is he not reminded that he "had better let such things alone"? We believe in home preaching—practical, every-day sermons—and have no relish for the sleepy, idle discourses which characterize the ministerial profession of the present day. There are a few rare and bright exceptions to this general rule, and such anxiety is there to hear genuine preaching, that men will travel a great distance to hear a Brother, a Parker, a Chapin, and live men of their mould, when they cannot be induced to go ten rods to hear an ordinary sermon, and ministers have to beg for the assistance in a community where plenty prevail.

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THE CROOKED ELM; or Life by the Way-Side. Whittemore, Niles & Hall, Boston. The above is the title of a book just published, and we are indebted to the author for a copy. We have had an inordinate dislike for books known as "story books," or "novels," but the more we see of real life, the less are our prejudices. True, there are many books, which come under these general headings, that have a most pernicious tendency. So there may be some doubt as to whether all general classifications in the publisher's catalogue. We do not believe that Arthur ever wrote a novel that would not produce a good effect upon the minds of his readers. In fact, our Sabbath School books and papers, are made up, to a great extent, of stories. Our knowledge of the author of the "Crooked Elm" warrants us in saying that a true history of his checkered and eventful life would seem to have him.

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For the Journal.

Mr. Estlin.—Baron Munchausen, under the guise of "Tax Payer" has just appeared, and in the very first sentence of his communication he makes a personal attack on the "Tin Shop Clique" and "Eminent Counsel." We appear as a board of Education to explain our action and face the charges which have been made against us as a Board, and we cannot suffer ourselves to be made a cover from which "Tax Payer" may, as usual, stab those whom he deems his personal enemies, nor can we allow this to become a cover for the discussion of private, personal or political feuds. The individual whom "Tax Payer" has assailed is perfectly able and undoubtedly willing to defend himself, and with him Mr. "Tax Payer" can more conveniently settle matters of a private nature. It is unwise, whether stated by "Tax Payer" or others, that we have made this a personal controversy. The charges against us were of personal fraud and incompetency, and if in repelling these charges personalities become unavoidable, the fault lies not with us. "Tax Payer" complains bitterly of the advice of "Eminent Counsel," Eminent Counsel, like Banquo's ghost, seems to haunt him.

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## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

## STILL IN TOWN!!!

SEVERAL extensive importers in New York having become greatly embarrassed,

## R. A. CROSS

Has this day received, for Express the most extensive assortment of jewelry ever offered in this City. Consisting in part of

WATCHES,

PINS,

RINGS,

BARRELS,

EAR RINGS,

DIAMOND SETTS From \$5 to \$200,

PLATED AND SILVER WARE,

All of which was selected by a competent Judge of

FIRST CLASS STOCK

in NEW YORK CITY.

NOW BE IT ANNOUNCED,

That the above Stock is of new and splendid patterns, and will be sold less by thirty per cent than

TOLEDO PRICES.

This Stock was selected for the Toledo Market, but owing to the

DEFECTIVE TITLE

Of property in that unwholesome place, it will be sold in

MAHON CITY.

GREAT BARGAINS

May be expected, and as

TIME IS MONEY,

His old Customers and Friends are invited to mount

their

PAST HORSES

And ride to his Store where he will be happy to show

them his goods.

Watchdog, Clocks and Jewelry Repaired as usual, and

Warranted.

Maumee City, Ohio, May 30, 1857.

Centre Ditch.

NOTICE is hereby given that the trustees of Perry-

burgh township, Wood county, Ohio, will meet at the

court house in said township, on the 17th day of

July, 1857, at 10 o'clock A. M. to proceed to view and

locate a ditch or water-course, to commence at the

corner of section 12, in township one, in the

U. S. Reserve of 12 miles square, at the corner of

a ditch already located by the trustees of Middle-

township, and run thence north through the middle

of said section 12 to the creek, and set apart to each

person interested in said water-course, such portion

of the same to be by them opened as shall be deemed

right and just, according to benefits to be derived there-

from, and also to assess the same portion of the

expenses, and damages as according to right and

justice they ought to pay. The following named per-

sons are supposed to be interested in opening said water-